

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, as originally filed with the present application, correspond to canceled claims 1-4 of the parent application (Application No. 09/638,336/Attorney Docket No. 11398.87141). Claims 5-9, as originally filed with the present application, correspond to canceled claims 7-11 of the parent application. Claims 10-16, as originally filed with the present application, correspond to canceled claims 14-20 of the parent application. With this amendment, claims 1-345 are pending.

In the following discussion of the rejected claims of the parent application, the Applicant references the Office Action mailed July 11, 2003.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Canceled claims 1-4, 7-11, and 14-20 of the parent application (corresponding to claims 1-15 of the present application) were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 4,850,040 (Teich) in view of US 5,287,109 (Hesse). The Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the feature of “clock setup circuitry, alarm setup and activation circuitry coupled to the microprocessor for setting the clock, setting the alarm, and activating **a plurality of remote devices**” and “a programmable universal infrared remote device control, coupled to the alarm clock circuitry, for remote programming the **plurality of remote devices**, and having activation circuitry for activating the **plurality of remote devices**. (Emphasis added.) Teich, as cited by the Office Action, merely teaches (Column 6, lines 12-20. Emphasis added.):

It will be recalled that each transmitted code consists of five bits (32 possible codes). In the illustrative system, there are at most eight remote devices which must be controlled; **eight codes are used to toggle respective devices on and off**. Another eight are used as a master reset, any one of them turning all eight devices off. The remaining sixteen codes are used for controlling the heating/cooling (HVAC) in the room. (Different coding altogether is required for controlling the TV, and it varies from manufacturer to manufacturer.)

This teaching teaches activating only one device, where a code corresponds to activating one device and not a plurality of devices.

Similarly, the Applicant has amended claim 6 to include the features of “clock setup circuitry, alarm setup and activation circuitry coupled to the microprocessor for setting the clock, setting the alarm, and activating a plurality of remote devices” and “a programmable universal infrared remote device control, coupled to the alarm clock circuitry, for remote programming the plurality of remote devices, and having activation circuitry for activating the plurality of remote devices” and has amended claim 11 to include the feature of “the microprocessor/microcontroller, and alarm setup and activation circuitry coupled to the remote controller alarm triggering unit for setting the alarm, and activating a plurality of remote devices”. Claims 2-5, 7-10, and 12-16 depend from claims 1, 6, and 11 and are patentable for at least the above reasons. Thus, the Applicant submits that claims 1-16 are patentable.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant is adding claims 17-35 which are supported by the specification as originally filed. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the amendments for allowance of the claims.

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Respectfully submitted,

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